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Conference of Directors of National Libraries Meets at the Library of Congress, August 15–16

Directors of national libraries from around the world will convene at the Library of Congress August 15–16 for the 12th Annual Meeting of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL). This is the first time the conference has met in the United States. William J. Welsh, The Deputy Librarian of Congress, is chair of the CDNL.

CDNL is a professional forum for directors of national libraries which facilitates collective discussion and action on matters that can be agreed upon quickly and, if necessary, financed by their respective institutions. Ongoing programs such as the development of universal bibliographic control of library materials, the universal availability of publications, and an international MARC (machine-readable cataloging) networking and data exchange system, are examples of the projects that have received the support of national library directors. Preservation of the resources of national libraries has been a continuing concern, and this will be the focus of the meeting in Washington, where the program will include discussions and demonstrations of mass deacidification and optical disk technologies in use at the Library of Congress.

CDNL was begun in 1974 by Dr. Guy Sylvester, the former national librarian of Canada, when he invited national library directors who were in Ottawa attending the annual meeting of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) to discuss the need for forming an international group whose structure and activities would have direct relevance to the concerns of national libraries and national information systems. The National Library of Canada became and remained the secretariat for CDNL

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until 1978 when the secretariat transferred to the British Library. In 1984 Mr. Welsh assumed the role as chair, and the secretariat was moved to the Library of Congress.

The CDNL is open to directors of national libraries or their deputies and meets annually in conjunction with IFLA, which this year is holding its 51st conference in Chicago, Ill., August 18–24. Many of the national librarians coming to Washington, D.C., for the CDNL meeting are also planning to attend the IFLA meeting in Chicago. Over 100 national libraries are on the CDNL mailing list, and those who cannot send a representative to the meeting will be kept informed of CDNL activities through minutes and documents distributed by the secretariat.

During the same week, two other pre-IFLA meetings will be held at the Library of Congress. The Parliamentary Libraries Section will meet August 13–14. Gilbert Gude, the Director of the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress, is the chair. Also, the Section of Libraries for the Blind will sponsor an Expert Meeting at the Library of Congress August 14–16. Frank Kurt Cylke, Director of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, is the executive secretary of the section. Persons attending these meetings will travel to the Library from around the globe.

Representatives from the national libraries of the following have indicated they plan to be present at the Conference of Directors of National Libraries meeting on August 15–16: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, People's Republic of China, Colombia, England, France, The Gambia, Federal Republic of Germany, German Democratic Republic, Greece, Haiti, India, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Republic of Korea, Kenya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Scotland, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, United States, Venezuela, Wales, and Yugoslavia.

Representatives from IFLA and Unesco also will attend the meeting.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Information Office of the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on an exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

Bruce Tapper, Editor

Library Acquires Important New Early Letters by Walt Whitman

"I went to Woodbury to teach school in the summer of 40." That is the laconic entry which Walt Whitman wrote in a notebook of autobiographical data, compiled in the mid-1850s. (See *Notebooks and Unpublished Prose Manuscripts*, ed. Edward F. Grier, New York University Press, 1984, v. 1, p. 211.) Very little has been known of that interlude or indeed of any of his school-teaching on Long Island for a five-year period, 1836–41, partly because of the absence of documentary evidence.

In 1972 the Library of Congress acquired a Whitman letter written March 30 (1841) from the Whitestone School, his next location after leaving Woodbury. It was the earliest letter of Walt Whitman then known and was so described in the Library's *Quarterly Journal*, January 1973, p. 44–47, which printed the brief text, a letter of recommendation for a fellow teacher, Clarissa Lyvere.

In a spectacular acquisition of major importance to Whitman studies, the Library has now acquired nine early and hitherto unknown letters written by Whitman to Abraham P. Leech, Jamaica, Long Island, with some associated material. At least seven of the letters pre-date the letter acquired by the Library in 1972, and most of them detail his reactions to the Woodbury, Long Island, teaching experience.

A comment on an August 26, 1840, letter is characteristic: "I never met with such complete unqualified, infernal jackasses in all my life." He repeatedly refers to Woodbury as "Purgatory" and puns that the experience "Would-bury" him. Aside from self-pitying laments over his situation, the other major topic is politics, with aspersions on the Whigs and remarks on Whitman's own "loco-focoism," i.e. liberal Democratic views. In one of the last letters in the series, he writes that he is "quite happy" at Whitestone. Among other biographical revelations in the letters is Whitman's early fondness for the game of Twenty Questions, a lifelong favorite.

A great deal remains to be learned about Abraham P. Leech of Jamaica, the recipient of these letters. Although addressed in warm and friendly terms, he is, so far as is known, not mentioned again by Whitman. No letters to or from Leech are cited in the six-

volume edition of Whitman's correspondence. His name does not appear in the indexes to Whitman's late conversations, *With Walt Whitman in Camden.* Nor is he mentioned in the various notebooks, daybooks, and manuscript fragments reaching print via the New York University edition of Whitman's collected writings. He may be the "Abraham P. Leech" identified in *Curtin's Directory of . . . Long Island,* 1865-1866 (1865) as a "book-keeper" residing on Fulton Street near Puntine.

The new Whitman letters will shortly be available for research in the Manuscript Division.

—John C. Broderick

Chicago Conference to Examine Books on the American Frontier

The role of the book on the American frontier is the focus of a conference to be jointly sponsored this fall by the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, and the new Illinois Center for the Book. The Chicago Conference on the Book in 19th-Century America, to be held at the University of Chicago on October 18-19, 1985, will feature 10 invited papers and discussion about the broad problems of book production and distribution and the influence of books on American society in the 19th century. A conference registration fee of $25 includes a reception and dinner following the session on October 18. Further information and registration forms are available from C19 Chicago Conference, Graduate Library School, University of Chicago, 1100 East 57th Street, Chicago, IL 60637, and from the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Speakers at the conference and their topics are: Terry Belanger, Columbia University—"Institutional Book Collecting in the Old Northwest, 1876-1900"; James Green, Library Company of Philadelphia—"Carey & Lea"; Michael Hackenberg, University of Chicago—"The Subscription Publishing Network in 19th-Century America"; Robert Harlan, University of California at Berkeley—"Printing for the Instant City: San Francisco at Mid-Century"; Michael Harris, University of Kentucky—"Spiritual Cakes Upon the Waters: The Church as Disseminator of the Printed Word on the Ohio Valley Frontier to 1850"; Bruce Johnson, California Historical Society—"California on Stone, 1880-1906: A Proposed Sequel to Harry Peters' Pioneering Study"; James Meriwether, University of South Carolina—"The Books of William Gilmore Simms"; Alice D. Schreyer, Rutgers University and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress—"Copyright and Books in 19th-Century America"; Madeleine Stern, Leona Rostenberg and Madeleine Stern Rare Books—"Dissemination of Popular Books in the Midwest and Far West During the 19th Century"; and Michael Winship, Harvard University—"Getting the Books Out: East Coast Publishers in the South and Midwest." Final comments will be presented by John Y. Cole, executive director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.

Cable Television Series Will Use Book Lists from Library of Congress

The Library of Congress is extending its encouragement of reading to cable television. Children and parents who watch Shelley Duvall's "Faerie Tale Theatre," a popular feature on the Showtime cable network, will soon be given the names of similar stories in print through a cooperative effort with the Library of Congress. Beginning in early 1986, with the screening of a new series of "Shelley Duvall's Tall Tales," the actress producer will appear on the screen at the end of each production to tell viewers that "by reading books, we were able to bring this legendary hero to life" and suggest that viewers who have watched a good book, may also enjoy reading a similar one. The books recommended are from lists supplied by the Children's Literature Center of the Library of Congress.

Through the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress, "Read More About It" messages have accompanied CBS network television specials for seven years. Another series, introduced by animated character "Cap'n O.G. Readmore," on ABC Television, describes the fun and excitement of reading through 30-second spot announcements presented in family viewing hours. CBS Radio is also carrying Library of Congress book lists.

Shelley Duvall, an actress who has appeared in numerous films, including "Brewster McCloud," "McCabe and Mrs. Miller," "Nashville," and "Annie Hall," has had a lifelong interest in children's literature. She is a collector of antique illustrated fairy tale books and began producing "Faerie Tale Theatre" three years ago. She has produced 26 hour-long fairy tales for Showtime and has attracted major personalities of stage and screen to work with her. Casts have included Joan Collins, Robin Williams, Mick Jagger, Tatum O'Neal, Liza Minelli, James Earl Jones, Leonard Nimoy, and many others. Among the awards she has received for her productions have been the Gold Medal for national children's programming at the 1983 and 1984 International Film and Television Festival and a 1982 On Cable Award. She has also been cited for outstanding work by Action for Children's Television, in addition to winning the 1985 Peabody Award for the series.

Finding Aid Lists Computer Periodicals Received in the Library

Computer Periodicals Currently Received in the Library, compiled by Joseph Puccio, is a 29-page finding aid, released last month, that lists more than 600 computer periodicals currently being received by the Library. It includes "Current Issues Only" and "Review Before Binding" titles as well as fully cataloged publications. Brief holdings statements are also given. Copies may be obtained free on request from the Serial and Government Publications Division, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Requests Flood in for Library Publication about Huckleberry Finn

Judi Rosewell with requests for Born to Trouble: One Hundred Years of Huckleberry Finn.

Judi Rosewell, publications supply clerk in the Central Services Division, shows the results of a favorable mention in the *New York Times* of a free publication from the Library of Congress.

The June 4 *Times* carried an article about the Center for the Book's publication of *Born to Trouble: One Hundred years of Huckleberry Finn,* a lecture by Justin Kaplan. Thousands of requests resulted. "They just came flying in," according to Domenic Cuozzo, mail analysis clerk. "I've never seen a publication with so many requests since I've been here." The Center for the Book is planning a reprint to meet the demand.

Single copies of the 23-page illustrated booklet are available on request from the Library of Congress, Central Services Division, Washington, DC 20540.

Overseas Field Officers Visit the Library

Staff members from the Jakarta, Rio de Janeiro, and New Delhi offices of the Library of Congress visited the Overseas Operations Division in Washington, D.C., on consultation in June. Shown above, left to right, are John Crawford, field director of the Jakarta office who is to be reassigned next month as the field director of the New Delhi office; Lygia Ballantyne, field director of the office in Rio de Janeiro; Mya Thanda Poe, deputy field director of the New Delhi office; and Rodney Sarle, chief, Overseas Operations Division.

COSLA Meets at the Library

Ellen Hahn, chief of the General Reading Rooms Division is the acting liaison of the Library of Congress to COSLA (the Chief Officers of State Library Agencies). In this capacity, she replaces Carol A. Nemeyer, Associate Librarian for National Programs who left the Library in May.

Some 40 state librarians and alternates in the organization met at the Library of Congress this spring for a business meeting and luncheon at which The Deputy Librarian of Congress William J. Welsh spoke informally with the group about the Library's budget, renovation plans, and preservation issues. He also urged the chief officers of state libraries to work together to plan for the preservation of state and local publications.

STAFF NEWS

Earl Brawner Is Recipient Of 20-Year Federal Service Award

Earl Brawner, a quality assurance specialist for the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS/BPH), received a 20-year Federal Service Award pin on July 15 from NLS/BPH Director Frank Kurt Cylke.

A native of Washington, D.C., Mr. Brawner attended Overlea School for the Blind and Gallaudet College.

Earl Brawner (center) is congratulated by Kurt Cylke, director of NLS/BPH (left), and Robert Kost (right), head of the Quality Assurance Section.

He worked at Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind before joining NLS/BPH in 1965. At NLS/BPH, Mr. Brawner had been promoted to braille instructor, to training instructor, and to braille production assistant before assuming his present position. As quality assurance specialist, Mr. Brawner reviews brailled materials for adherence to NLS/BPH specifications to insure that only high quality braille books and magazines are added to the library collection. He also thermoforms and binds braille materials for NLS/BPH staff members. He has represented NLS/BPH at meetings across the country and has participated at conferences on employment of deaf-blind persons. He was recognized as an Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year in 1978.

Mr. Brawner's interests include development of communication aids for deaf-blind persons. He has worked with the Cybernetics Research Institute of Washington to develop devices enabling deaf-blind individuals to communicate by telephone and to produce items in braille.

In addition to reading braille books and magazines, Mr. Brawner enjoys writing short stories and participating in athletic exercises, including wrestling and weight lifting.

Janie Gardner Receives 20-Year Federal Service Award Pin

Janie Gardner, a card reprint clerk in the Card Control Unit, Card Distribution Section, Cataloging Distribution Service, was presented a 20-year Federal Service Award pin on June 28 by Gerald R. Lowell, chief of the Cataloging Distribution Service. Also in attendance were John J. Pizzo, assistant chief; Ernest C. Hedges, Jr., head of the Card Distribution Section; and William E. Ford, supervisor of the Card Control Unit.

Mrs. Gardner began her Federal service career with the Library of Congress in the Library Support Services Office in June 1965. She was transferred to the Cataloging Distribution Service and promoted to library aid in August 1969. She has held the positions of record clerk, stock control clerk, and card processing clerk before being reassigned to her present position.

In March 1980, Mrs. Gardner received a letter of appreciation for her excellent participation while detailed to provide clerical assistance to other units.

Mrs. Gardner is an active member, as well as secretary, of the Tenth Street Baptist Church. She also holds memberships in several of the church's clubs and is a member of the choir.

A graduate of Cardoza High School, Washington, D.C., Mrs. Gardner resides in the District. In her spare time, she enjoys bowling, dancing, and singing.

Deadline Set for Nominations For Suggestion and Incentive Awards

September 6 has been set as the deadline date for departments to submit to the Staff Relations Office their nominees for awards to be presented at the next Suggestion and Incentive Awards Program scheduled for late November.

The Library identifies, on a continuing basis, individual staff members or groups of staff members whose work performance, suggestions, or special

achievements warrant the granting of an award. Under the direction of The Librarian of Congress, the Staff Relations Officer and Director of Personnel are responsible for carrying out this program, with the Incentive Awards Committee serving in an advisory capacity.

According to Library of Congress Regulation 218–5, *Incentive Awards Committee,* this committee shall be composed of five voting members who are appointed by The Librarian of Congress and who shall serve on staggered schedules for three consecutive fiscal years. In accordance with current Collective Bargaining Agreements, there is one representative each from CREA and AFSCME Locals 2477 and 2910. The representative from CREA is also a voting member of the committee.

The current members of the Incentive Awards Committee and the years in which their terms expire on September 30 are: Ellen C. Collier, CREA (1985); George E. Glos, Law Library (1987); Cornelia O. Goode, AFSCME 2477 (1985); Harriet W. Harrison, Research Services (1987); Jean E. Kridle, Copyright Office (1985); Chrissie A. Nash, Congressional Research Service (1985); M. Laverne Page, AFSCME Local 2910 (1987); Michael H. Shelley, Processing Services (1987).

Jean Kridle is the current chair of the committee.

Special Interest Groups Plan Additional August Meetings

The Special Interest Groups (SIGs) of the Library of Congress Professional Association have planned the additional meetings for August. All meetings are strictly held to one-half hour, from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m., with the exception of the Foreign Area Studies SIG, which meets from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon, so that staff members may attend them on their lunch periods. The meetings are informal, and eating lunch during them is encouraged.

On Tuesday, August 13, the Special Interest Group on Foreign Area Studies will meet in LM 642 (Processing Services large conference room) from 11:30 a.m. to 12 noon. Emphasis will be on the European section. There will be an informal discussion on possibilities for future programs. Participants are encouraged to bring ideas.

On Tuesday, August 27, the Special Interest Group on American Studies will meet in LM 642 (Processing Services large conference room) to hear Anna Keller, of the Microform Reading Room, address the subject of labor. This subject is in honor of Labor Day.

Also on Tuesday, August 27, the Special Interest Group for Managers will meet in LM 403 (Copyright Office conference room) to hear Margaret Cox, the assistant counsel in the Office of Counsel for Personnel, present the second segment of her discussion on adverse action procedures.

The Special Interest Group on the Special Collections in the Library of Congress will not meet in August. The Special Interest Group on the History of the Library of Congress has ceased to meet. Any staff member who is willing to take on the job of planning programs for this SIG should contact Enikő Basa, ext. 71137.

Health Services Office Announces Longer Hours of Operation

The Health Services Office has announced that the Madison Health Room, LM G40, will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Monday through Friday, and from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays, effective August 1. The Adams Health Room, LA 1018, will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. There will be no Sunday health services.

Dr. Raymon A. Noble, chief of the Health Services Office, also reminds staff members to call the Library's emergency number, ext. 77111, in the event of a medical emergency. Special Police Officers, trained in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation, will summon available health personnel and respond to the emergency.

AFSCME Local 2477 Sponsors Seminar

All interested staff members are invited to attend the lunch seminar planned by AFSCME Local 2477 on Tuesday, August 13, at 12 noon in the Mumford Room, LM 649. A 20-minute presentation on "An Overview of the Position Classification and Organization Office" by Laverne Cox, a position classification specialist, is the topic. A 10-minute question-and-answer period will follow. Free coffee and tea will be provided and staff members are encouraged to bring their lunches for the seminar.

Reminder. . .

The Library of Congress Professional Association is looking for volunteers to repeat its successful telethon for public television's WETA Membership Drive in August. Forty volunteers are needed to staff telephones at the station in Arlington, Va., on Tuesday, August 27, from 7 p.m. to midnight. Interested staff members may contact Terri Mastrorocco of the Copyright Office, ext. 76787.

Sherlock Searcher Reads More About It

Some of our patrons would also like to read more about it in the books listed here that are missing from the shelves but not charged in the Central Charge File. They have asked Sherlock, and he is asking your help in finding them. If you know where any of them are, Sherlock would appreciate hearing from you in Alcove 7, Main Reading Room, or if he is temporarily off the air, you can leave a message with his sponsor on ext. 77427, Collections Management Division.

- Atkinson, Charles Raymond
  *The Commission on Rules, and the Overthrow of Speaker Cannon. . . .*1911. JK1411.A7

- Clemence, Richard Vernon
  The Schumpeterian System. 1950. HB119.S35C55
  HB119.S35C55 1966

- Commoner, Barry
  The Closing Circle: Nature, Man, and Technology. 1971.
  GF75.C65
  GF75.C65 1972

- Ellul, Jacques
  The Political Illusion. 1967. JC262.E413

- Gould, Stephen Jay
  The Mismeasure of Man. 1981. BF431.G68 1981

- Greenwood, Ted
  Making the MIRV: A Study of Defense Decision Making. 1975. UG1312.M2G73 1975

- Hickey, Neil
  Adam Clayton Powell and the Politics of Race. 1965.
  E748.P86H5

- Jeffers, Harry Paul
  The CIA: A Close Look at the Central Intelligence Agency. 1970. JK468.I6 1970

- Origen
  Sur les Ecritures: Philocalie 1-20. 1983.
  BR65.0619214 1983

- Wechsler, David
  Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children: Manual. 1949.
  BF431.W38

Staff Activities

David E. Gushee, chief of the Environment and Natural Resources Policy Division, has been named a Fellow of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. The institute's governing council saluted his use of chemical engineering expertise in the formulation of legislative policy. A graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Mr. Gushee joined the Congressional Research Service in 1972.

Sarah Pritchard, a reference specialist in the General Reading Rooms Division, has been elected to the position of vice-chair/chair-elect of the Machine-Assisted Reference Section (MARS) of the Reference and Adult Services Division (RASD) of the American Library Association. MARS is concerned with the planning, management, teaching, and conducting of computer-based reference services in libraries. Ms. Pritchard has been appointed to several committees within MARS and RASD, most recently as the chair of the RASD Evaluation Committee. Her activities in the field of automation include writings on the public use of online catalogs and on database services in women's studies, and serving as a principal LOCIS trainer in the General Reading Rooms Division.

Chi Wang, head of the Chinese and Korean Section in the Asian Division, was interviewed by the Voice of America on July 23 for the "America Today" show of its China Program. The interview was a 30-minute program on the subject of the history and development of the Chinese Collection of the Library of Congress, its size and content, and its current acquisitions program in the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. It will be broadcast in two 15-minute segments.

Based on an interview with Mr. Wang in May, a full-page article on the Chinese Collection in the Library of Congress appeared in the June 7 issue of the *Hua fu yu pao* (Washington China Post), a Chinese weekly newspaper published in Washington, D.C.

Libushe Zorin of the Serial Record Division has become an editor of the ethnic bimonthly publication, *Zprávy SVU,* the official publication of the Czechoslovak Society of Arts and Sciences. The society is a Czechoslovak cultural organization, with a membership of some 1,500, that is active in the free world. Most of its members are affiliated with local chapters established in all parts of the world. Membership is open to scientists, scholars, writers, artists, and anyone interested in Czechoslovak culture and its advancement.

Staff Carpool Locator

Arun Acharya of the Serial Record Division, ext. 71499, would like to join or start a carpool coming from Beltsville, Md. He is on a flexitime schedule from 7:15 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Emma Montgomery of the Collections Development Office, ext. 77050, is seeking a fourth member, preferably a driver, for an existing carpool coming from the area of Massachusetts Ave. west of Wisconsin Ave., or Glover Park. Current members are on a flexitime schedule from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

John Roberts of the Subject Cataloging Division, ext. 75988, is seeking to join a carpool from the Arnold/Annapolis, Md., area, beginning September 1. He is presently on a flexitime schedule and would prefer to leave for work around 7:30 a.m. He would be available to drive once or twice a week, if necessary.

Grace Shao of the Preliminary Cataloging Division, ext. 76720, would like to be a rider/driver in a carpool coming from the Annandale (Braddock Rd.) or North Springfield, Va., area. She is on a flexitime schedule from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Mary Smith of the Education and Public Welfare Division, ext. 77327, and Charlotte Houtz of the Geography and Map Division, ext. 78541, are seeking a rider/driver for an existing carpool coming from Falls Church, Va. The carpool leaves from I-66 and Sycamore at 7:30 a.m. Current members are on a schedule from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with parking in the Madison Building.

Bruce Swain of the Microform Reading Room, ext. 71859, needs riders or drivers, on a compflex schedule, for a carpool coming from Indian Head, Bryans Road, or Accokeek, Md.

Karen Wood of the Serial and Government Publications Division, ext. 76117, would like to join a carpool coming from the Burke/Springfield, Va., area. She is on a schedule from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Personnel Changes

Temporary Appointments: JoAnne Ham, clerk, GS-1, Cop Acq & Proc, NP; Gail Henry, library technician, GS-6, Ch Lit, NP; LaTonya Logan, library aid, GS-2, Col Mgmt, G114F; Trina Mackie, library aid, GS-2, Col Mgmt, G114F; Ronald Twyman, library aid, GS-3, Col Mgmt, G114F.

Reappointment: Cheryl Hunt, library aid, GS-3, Ser, 50257.

Promotions: Hisako Rogerson, to library technician, GS-9, Share Cat, 50281; Janice Wright, to library technician, GS-4, Ser, NP.

Transfer: Sharon Seldon, Cop Acq & Proc, to clerk, GS-3, CRS ARS, 50226.

Resignations: Michael Bratton, M/B/RS; Jimmy Howard, CMP; Claudia Saldi, E&G; Charles Winkler, FRD.

Report on the 16th Annual Meeting of the Association of Caribbean University, Research, and Institutional Libraries

"Users of Information: The Critical Variable in the Caribbean Setting" was the focus of the 16th annual meeting of the Association of Caribbean University, Research, and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL), held May 12–17 at the Condado Plaza Hotel, San Juan, Puerto Rico. The theme was developed during the conference through the presentation of working papers, panels, specialized discussion groups, and demonstrations. Among the various aspects considered in the well-organized programs were the availability of and access to resources, the elements that affect user satisfaction, analysis and assessment of user response to services, library public relations and the marketing of intangibles, and user orientation to library resources and services.

The opening session of the conference took place on the evening of May 12, in the splendid Salón de Turismo of the Manuel Paiva Fernández Governmental Reception Center in old San Juan. Maria Elena de Cardona, Inter-American University Library, San Germán, P.R., was mistress of ceremonies. Introduced for brief remarks of welcome and acknowledgement were Luisa Vigo-Cepeda of the University of Puerto Rico Libraries, Rio Piedras, P.R., coordinator of the local Organizing Committee for the conference; ACURIL president Daphne Douglas of the University of the West Indies Department of Library Studies, Mona, Jamaica; vice-president/president-elect Marie-Françoise Bernabé of the Bibliothèque Universitaire Antilles-Guyane, Martinique; Dr. Juan Daniel Curet of the Inter-American University who represented the Association of Caribbean Universities (UNICA); and Dr. Germán Malaret, president, Council of Higher Education of Puerto Rico. The honorable Héctor Luís Acevedo, Secretary of State of Puerto Rico, offered the formal welcome to the assembled delegates on behalf of the Government, closing his remarks with the traditional words of the host throughout the Spanish-speaking world, "Están en su casa" (you are in your own house).

The next morning, President Daphne Douglas opened the first program session by asking the participants to rise in a moment of silent tribute to two beloved and loyal ACURIL members who died during the past year, Marietta Daniels Shepard and Dorothy McNeal.

This was followed by the keynote address given by Margaret Chartrand, public relations manager of the Metropolitan Toronto Library Board. In a wide-ranging and stimulating paper, Ms. Chartrand explored the concept of marketing in the library setting, noting that other nonprofit service and community organizations have for some time recognized the importance of relating their professional activities to their communities' needs. As succinctly stated by Philip Kotler, the main task of a marketing orientation is "to determine the needs and wants to target markets and to satisfy them through the design, pricing, communication, and delivery of appropriate and competitively viable products and services." Ms. Chartrand then outlined a practical marketing process for a library or system, proceeding from an initial audit of markets and resources, through marketing strategy, costing-out, design delivery, promotion, and audit of results. She noted that several of the points mentioned in her overview would receive more detailed analysis and discussion later in the conference.

After an interval for the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony by President Douglas at the entrance to the display area, and a buffet offered by the exhibitors, the delegates returned to the conference hall for the first administrative meeting. Reports on the year's activities were given by the president and by Oneida Ortiz of Puerto Rico, ACURIL executive secretary. The report of treasurer Joan Hayes was submitted for approval. As of May 1, total assets were $21,722 and total liabilities $10,150, leaving a net worth of $11,571. The nominating committee presented its slate to fill two vacancies on the Executive Council.

The general sessions in the afternoon included several papers related to Ms. Chartrand's theme presentation. Jorge Peñaranda, senior vice-president of the advertising firm Badillo-Compton, Inc., Puerto Rico, summarized what he saw as the key elements in marketing intangibles. Aura López de Díaz, of the University of Puerto Rico Libraries, Rio Piedras, described in some detail how these were exemplified in an effective campaign undertaken by the Public Communications Library, part of her university system, to publicize its periodical indexing service. Robert C. Usherwood, lecturer, Department of Information Studies, University of Sheffield, United Kingdom, dealt with some of the public relations aspects of Ms. Chartrand's presentation, noting that librarians often undervalue or seem oblivious to the image they project. An effective public relations program involves identifying the library's public, defining the objectives of the library, determining the message, selecting the channels for projecting it, costing it out, and evaluating the results. He noted that in addition to the two major target groups identified by earlier speakers—the public and the library's funding sources—he would add a third, the library staff.

Variations on the program theme continued on

Tuesday with a panel, "As Users See Librarians," with presentations by Dr. Thomas G. Mathews, secretary-general of UNICA, Dr. Joaquín Villamil of the Graduate School of Planning, University of Puerto Rico, and Hector Jiménez Jaurbe, executive vice-president of the Asociación de Industriales de Puerto Rico. In a brief and stimulating paper, Dr. Villamil examined the implications for libraries of the transformation of society from a materials-based productive sector to one whose nature is primarily information-based. This profound shift is making major changes in the information field; the most important of these are an increasingly transdisciplinary complexity, the accelerated pace of technological change, and the decentralized nature of information production and use. Librarians should adapt to this different context by expanding their traditional roles as purveyors to include the functions of managers of dispersed information, catalytic agents in stimulating the production of new information, and monitors of the changing requirements in the field. Mr. Jiménez Juarbe, speaking for the users of business and technical information, counseled libraries to improve their services, develop publicity programs to make these more widely known in the community, and work to change the stereotyped image of the librarian. Belsie Cappas de Pinero, coordinator of bibliographic instruction, University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras, presented an overview of bibliographic instruction programs in academic libraries during the past 15 years, placing particular emphasis on the experience of the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign, and concluding with a summary of what is being done in Puerto Rico.

At the afternoon session, Sybil Iton, director of the Jamaica Library Service, gave useful pointers on the dynamic use of resources in the public library environment, examining in the Jamaican context several aspects of the conference theme—the library's environment and clientele, its resources and orientation programs, user education, and public relations. She underlined the importance of making the most of the resources that are available through planning and cooperation. In Jamica, all libraries and information services form part of the national system coordinated by NACOLADS, the National Council on Libraries, Archives, and Documentation Services. Ms. Iton noted that library activities customarily get a very good press in Jamaica, thanks to the systematic efforts of librarians to identify and exploit all of the free media attention possible.

The rest of Tuesday afternoon was given over to meetings of standing committees. In the evening, the delegates were the guests of the Organizing Committee and the Sociedad de Bibliotecarios de Puerto Rico at an open-air Puerto Rican buffet dinner and folklife festival, given in the main courtyard of historic Fort San Cristobal.

The Wednesday morning session began with a paper by Lic. Guadalupe Carrión Rodríguez, INFOTEC, Mexico, on the administrative implications of the introduction of innovative user education programs in special libraries. Dr. Fiolina Mills, state director of media library service, U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Education, then spoke on the library media program as an integral component of the teaching and learning process, and on the need to motivate principals and teachers to recognize this role and collaborate with the media specialists in a team effort.

In the afternoon the participants broke up into smaller groups for optional special seminars (on SOLINET/OCLC and the DIALOG Information Systems Social Science Update Service), as well as practical demonstration workshops. Workshop topics included planning, preparing, and producing library video programs; designing and developing publicity programs; and an overview of Unesco's Regional Information Users Training Package, the latter presented by Dr. Daphne Douglas and Stephney Ferguson, director of the National Library of Jamaica. The evening social event was an excursion-boat cruise of San Juan Harbor sponsored by the Faxon company and University Microfilms International.

The second administrative session led off the activities on Thursday. The main business was an election to fill the two vacancies on the Executive Council. The successful candidates were Wilfrid Bertrand, director of the archives of Haiti and of the library of the Institut Français in Port-au-Prince, and Frank Rodgers, director of libraries, University of Miami. Dr. Gustave Harrer, chairman of the Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and Michael Gill of the University of the West Indies at Barbados presented an interim report outlining and explaining the committee's proposals for changes in the basic documents to effect the restructuring of ACURIL, a matter which the council and the membership have studied intensively for the past two years. The committee proposed: (1) expansion of membership elegibility and voting rights to personal members whose institutions are not institutional members, and to national and regional associations; (2) a new dues structure, including reduced dues for student and nonsalaried members; and (3) an increase in the number of council members from the present 12 to between 15 and 20, with some structured distribution of positions among the institutional, personal, and group categories of membership. The committee expects to distribute a full text of its recommendations to the membership within the coming months in the hope of obtaining a vote that will permit the council to restructure the elections for

next year to reflect the changes.

At the eighth general session which followed, in lieu of the scheduled presentation by a speaker who could not attend, the delegates heard a paper prepared by Carol Collins, chief of the Information and Documentation Section (Guyana) of the Caribbean Community Secretariat on "User Needs in National Information Systems: A Caribbean Perspective." Taking as her point of departure the concept of the National Information System (NATIS) first enunciated by Unesco in 1966 and subsequently refined and expanded, Ms. Collins described how the Commonwealth Caribbean has sought to interpret and implement these tenets in the past few years through regional groupings like CARICOM, and national agencies such as Jamaica's NACOLADS. Noting that much remains to be done, Ms. Collins related her analysis to the main theme of the conference with the observation that "the mounting of user education and training seminars on a continuing basis . . . within the national information system is crucial to the continuing existence of and support for those systems."

In the afternoon, the delegates dispersed to various locales in the San Juan area to visit libraries, among them the main library of the Rio Piedras campus of the University of Puerto Rico, where tours were given of the Caribbean Regional Library, the Law Library, and other units. There was also a demonstration of the system's SOLINET/OCLC link-up.

The final day of ACURIL began with an impromptu panel on research in user needs, presided by President Daphne Douglas. Brief presentations were made by Dr. William V. Jackson of the University of Texas at Austin, Mr. Robert Usherwood, and Dr. Fiolina Mills. This was followed by the tenth general session on the theme "Delivering the Goods: Variables affecting Satisfaction Regarding Access and Availability of Materials." The papers were by Jeniphier Carnegie of the University of the West Indies, Barbados (read for her by Jean Callender of Barbados); Blanca Hodge and Alice von Romondt (read by Mrs. Hodge, St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles); Marie Françoise Bernabé of the Université Antilles-Guyane, Martinique; and Nilba Morillo Prieto of the Biblioteca Nacional, Venezuela. Stephney Ferguson of the National Library of Jamaica presided and led the discussion that followed.

After lunch, the delegates gathered for the third administrative session, to hear the reports of the standing committees and to consider the resolutions of the conference. The following are highlights of the reports:

☐ *The Microform Committee* (Dr. Henry Chang, U.S. Virgin Islands) is implementing its current program for collecting bibliographic and holdings information on Caribbean newspapers that are on microfilm. For 1985–86, the chair proposes a project for developing a prioritized list of historically significant newspapers in the Caribbean which should be microfilmed.

☐ *Constitution and Bylaws.* As reported during Thursday's session.

☐ *Publications* (Neida Pagán, Puerto Rico) announced that the present committee is stepping down in the hope that a new group can take a fresh look at the chronic problems that have impeded the publications program, and find solutions to them; the new chair is Luisa Vigo-Cepeda.

☐ *English-speaking Caribbean Acquisitions* (Stephney Ferguson) is moving ahead on the establishment of an exchange information network. The first tasks are to compile a list of cooperating libraries, and to develop a form to be used by those libraries to report what they can offer on exchange. A possible medium for disseminating the reports might be the ACURIL *Newsletter.*

☐ *Spanish-speaking Caribbean Acquisitions* (Carmen T. Olivo, Dominican Republic). The draft of a directory of publishers and booksellers in the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and Costa Rica has been completed and submitted for the consideration of the Publications Committee. There are no other projects in progress.

☐ *Francophone Caribbean* (Wilfrid Bertrand). The committee has had a busy year, the most important work being the continuing compilation of conference, directory, and bibliographic information which is appearing in *Notes Bibliographiques,* the official organ of the Association des Archivistes, Bibliothécaires et Documentalistes Francophones de la Caraïbe. Mr. Bertrand proposed that Françoise Montbrun of Guadeloupe be named to chair the committee now that Mr. Bertrand has been elected to the Executive Council.

The other standing committees were either not represented, or had no reports to present.

The final business was the review and approval of the 19 draft resolutions drawn up by the Resolutions Committee made up of its chair, Vere Achong of Trinidad and Tobago, Nilba Morillo, and Henry Chang. In addition to the customary expressions of appreciation to the local committee and authorities, the resolutions ran a wide gamut articulating the association's concerns in the areas discussed throughout the proceedings. The resolutions were discussed and debated at length, and a number of emendations and one or two deletions were suggested. A resolution from the floor by Miguel Angel Rivera-Alvarez of the University of Puerto Rico Law Library, proposing the development of an inter-library loan network among Caribbean libraries, was readily accepted. A motion was unanimously approved that the committee take

Meetings and Events Around the Library

Thursday, August 22

☐ Traditional Omaha Indian Music. Outdoor concert series of the American Folklife Center. Free. Neptune Plaza, 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. Held indoors in case of rain.

Tuesday, August 27

☐ Anna Keller, Microform Reading Room, will address the subject of labor, in honor of Labor Day. Special Interest Group on American Studies. LC Professional Association. Room LM 642, 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. **For members and staff.**

☐ "Adverse Action Procedures," Margaret Cox, assistant counsel for personnel. This talk continues one given in May. Special Interest Group for Managers. LC Professional Association. Room 403, 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. **For members and staff.**

The Mary Pickford Theater

Among the current ongoing series are **Blue Collar Thirties** —"The Public Enemy" (1931), at 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 20—and **A Jason Robards Retrospective** — "All the President's Men" (1976), at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 21; and "Comes a Horseman" (1978), at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 29.

The **Movies for Children** series on Saturdays at 2 p.m. continues with "Wee Willie Winkie" (1937), August 24.

To make phone reservations, no earlier than one week preceding a screening, call (202) 287-5677, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Stand-bys are admitted 10 minutes before a show to take unclaimed seats. Seating is limited to 64.

Events are open to the public unless otherwise specified.

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under advisement the comments and suggestions made from the floor and incorporate them into a new draft to reflect the sense of the membership. The committee will submit the final version to the Executive Council for action.

The official closing ceremony of ACURIL XVI was held Friday evening at the Government Reception Center. Departing President Daphne Douglas made a brief address of thanks to all who helped her throughout her time in office, and expressed her high hopes for the future under incoming President Marie-Françoise Bernabé and the new council. Ms. Bernabé accepted the gavel and its responsibilities, paying tribute to Dr. Douglas for her dedication and accomplishment. Dr. Alma T. Jordan of the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, and Dr. Luisa Vigo-Cepeda expressed the thanks of the Association and the Organizing Committee respectively for the assistance and support of the many government offices, professional associations, business groups, and individuals who contributed to the success of the conference. The closing address and farewell was given by Lic. José Alberto Morales, Sub-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Puerto Rico. The able mistress of ceremonies was again María Elena Cardona.

ACURIL XVII is scheduled for St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, on May 4-10, 1986. The chairman of the Organizing Committee is Dr. Henry Chang.

—Peter de la Garza

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